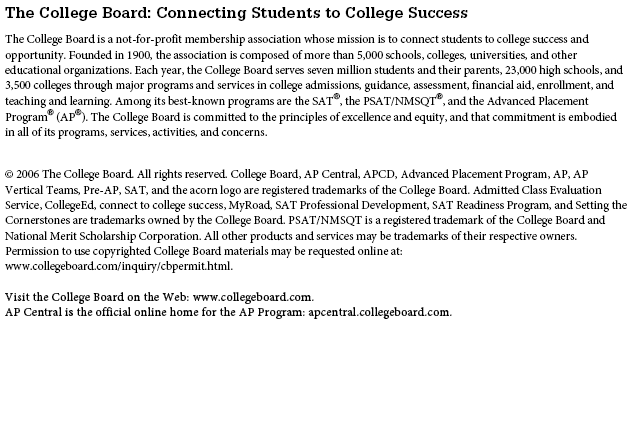


# **Mutually Assured Destruction**

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### UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

### Section I

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**SECTION I**

**Time – 45 minutes**

Directions: You have 45 minutes to answer all 60 of the following questions. Please choose the best response to each question and fill it in your answer sheet. Any work written in this test booklet will not be counted toward your grade.

1. The preamble to the U.S. Constitution lists all of the following goals of government except
   1. Union
   2. Justice
   3. Liberty
   4. Democracy
   5. Tranquility
2. The validity of public opinion polls may be affected by several factors, including
   1. Poll overrepresentation of the views of a political elite
   2. The fact that public opinion tends to be relatively stable over time
   3. The wording of questions on a poll
   4. Poll overrepresentation of a political culture factors such as liberty and civic duty
   5. Excessive polling in certain parts of the country
3. According to Alexis de Tocqueville, one of the reasons a democratic republic took root in the United States was because of the
   1. High levels of taxation
   2. Insistence on economic equality for all
   3. Presence of fertile lands and rich resources
   4. Absence of foreign intervention
   5. Absence of a feudal aristocracy
4. In our society, government officials should be accountable to the people. This principle is known as
   1. liberty
   2. equality
   3. civic duty
   4. democracy
   5. capitalism
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_ is the ability of one person to get another person to act in accordance with the first person’s intentions
   1. Influence
   2. Legitimacy
   3. Power
   4. Authority
   5. leadership
6. Which of the following statements about the Ariticles of Confederation is/are correct?
   1. Each state had one vote in Congress
   2. There was no national judicial system
   3. To amend the articles, all thirteen states had to agree
   4. The national government didn’t have the right to tax states
   5. All of the above
7. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ plan called for a strong national government.
   1. New Jersey
   2. Virginia
   3. Connecticut
   4. Rhode Island
   5. Federalist
8. The preamble to the U.S. Constitution lists all of the following goals of government except
   1. Union
   2. Justice
   3. Liberty
   4. Democracy
   5. Tranquility
9. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to a government in which a system of representation operates
   1. Federalism
   2. Democratic centralism
   3. Republic
   4. Separation of powers
   5. Pluralism
10. The proponents of the constitution were called the
    1. Framers
    2. Revisionalists
    3. Antifederalists
    4. Federalists
    5. Patriots
11. The Bill of Rights refers to the first \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ amendments to the constitution.
    1. Five
    2. Six
    3. Eight
    4. Ten
    5. Twelve
12. The Supremacy Clause was first invoked in which Supreme Court case?
    1. Madbury v. Madison
    2. Roe v. Wade
    3. McCulloch v. Maryland
    4. Fletcher v. Peck
    5. Brown v. Board of Education
13. Under the doctrine of dual federalism:
    1. Congress could regulate interstate commerce
    2. Congress could regulate interstate commerce
    3. Congress could regulate intrastate commerce and interstate commerce
    4. States could regulate interstate commerce
    5. None of the above
14. Which type of grant is for one specific purpose?
    1. Revenue sharing grant
    2. Block grant
    3. Conditional grant
    4. Categorical grant
    5. None of the above
15. Which amendment gave women the right to vote?
    1. 14th
    2. 19th
    3. 21st
    4. 12th
    5. None of the above
16. National party conventions were developed as a reform of
    1. The electoral college
    2. Party caucuses
    3. Primary elections
    4. Direct elections
    5. Recall elections
17. The congressional caucus system of selecting a presidential candidate was replaced by
    1. State caucus nominations
    2. Direct popular nominations
    3. The party convention
    4. The open primary
    5. The blanket primary
18. Procedures such as the initiative and the referendum arose as efforts to give
    1. Congress a way of controlling the president
    2. Citizens a direct say in making laws
    3. Courts a system for prosecuting election fraud
    4. Governors more power in relation to legislatures
    5. Party regulars a say in nominating candidates
19. Presidential racs differ from congressional races in that the former generally
    1. Are less competitive
    2. Relate more closely to what the candidate can do for constituents
    3. Produce a larger voter turnout
    4. Allow the imcumbent more opportunity to deny responsibility for the “mess” in Washington
    5. A and D
20. The first goal of an individual planning to run for office is to
    1. Hire a paid staff of advisers
    2. Get mentioned as a possible candidate
    3. Develop a strategy for the campaign
    4. Raise money from individuals and political action committees
    5. Replace party leaders with avid supporters
21. The Constitution calls for reapportionment every
    1. Five years
    2. Ten years
    3. Twenty years
    4. Fifty years
    5. One hundred years
22. Funding of congressional elections comes from
    1. Public sources only
    2. Private sources only
    3. Party sources only
    4. A combination of public, party, and private sources
    5. The parties and public sources
23. The growth of numerous public-interest lobbies in the 1960s was an example of interest groups forming as a result of
    1. Government policy
    2. The emergence of talented leadership
    3. The enlargement of governmental responsibilities
    4. Broad economic developments
    5. Legislative capitulation
24. An organization that seeks to influence public policy is most accurately referred to as a(n)
    1. Interest group
    2. Lobby
    3. Institutional interest
    4. Membership interest
    5. Referenced interest
25. The U.S. tobacco is represented in Washington by a strong lobby that seeks to influence public policy regarding the use of tobacco. This lobby is most accurately referred to as a(n)
    1. Membership interest
    2. Solidary group
    3. Institutional interest
    4. Public-interest lobby
    5. Referenced interest
26. An important factor in the development of less partisan newspapers in the nineteenth century was the growth of
    1. Paid advertising, which reduced the need for party subsidies
    2. Political patronage, which contributed needed funds to editors
    3. A large rural population, which balanced the urban bias of newspapers
    4. Government subsidies, which gave editors a strong financial base
    5. Supreme Court rulings which involved charges of libel
27. Changes in U.S. politics have occurred at the same time as changes in the organization and technology of the media. This seems to suggest that
    1. The nature of journalism dictates the nature of politics
    2. Politics will respond to changes in how communication is carried on
    3. The technology of journalism responds to changes in politics
    4. Journalism is more important than politics
    5. The nature of politics dictates the nature of journalism
28. News coverage by the Associated Press had to be nonpartisan because
    1. Its funding came from the federal government
    2. Its reporters’ standards were highly professional
    3. Government regulations required it
    4. It served papers of various political hues
    5. Its managers held the parties in contempt
29. Conflicts in civil liberties often arise because
    1. Majoritarian politics is ineffective in resolving crises
    2. The U.S. Constitution is vague on issues of individual rights
    3. The Bill of Rights lists several competing rights
    4. Policy entrepreneurs rarely operate in the civil rights area
    5. The Supreme Court has refused to play a leading role in the interpretation of the First Amendment
30. The Espionage and Sedition Acts were largely stimulated by fears of
    1. Germans and radicals
    2. Radicals and blacks
    3. Blacks and communists
    4. Japanese and Germans
    5. Socialists and steel workers
31. Which statement best summarizes the correct understanding of civil rights?
    1. Laws cannot make distinctions among people
    2. Laws cannot discriminate
    3. Laws must treat everything equally
    4. Laws can make distinctions, but not all distinctions are defensible
    5. Laws can discriminate as long as they do not make distinctions
32. The Supreme Court has decided that any law classifying people on the basis of their race or ethnicity is
    1. Illegal
    2. To be reffered to the courts of individual states
    3. Constitutional
    4. Unconstitutional
    5. To be subjected to especially close scruntiny
33. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ Amendment to the U.S. Constitution appeared to
    1. First
    2. Fourteenth
    3. Twenty-first
    4. Twenty-fifth
    5. Twenty-sixth
34. Which of the following presidencies were not characterized by White House dominance of foreign policy?
    1. Dwight Eisenhower
    2. John F. Kennedy
    3. Franklin D. Roosevelt
    4. Richard M. Nixon
    5. None of these
35. The constitutional power to appoint ambassadors and to negotiate treaties is vested in the
    1. State Department
    2. Senate
    3. President
    4. Congress
    5. The House
36. In 1973 congress adopted the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which required the president to consult with Congress before sending U.S. troops into action.
    1. War Powers Act
    2. Twenty-sixth Amendment
    3. Declaration and intention Amendment
    4. Foreign Relations Limited Security Clause
    5. Boland-Fry Amendment
37. Foreign policy became the first item on the president’s agenda at what period in U.S. history?
    1. During and after the Civil War
    2. During and after World War I
    3. During and after World War II
    4. During and after the Vietnam War
    5. During and after the Gulf War
38. The term bicameral used to describe the U.S. legislature means that the legislature
    1. Has two chambers, or legislative bodies
    2. Is elected every two years
    3. Consists of both committees and a main body
    4. Is based on a system of checks and balances
    5. Is apportioned once every ten years
39. Under the original U.S. Constitution, members of the Senate, unlike members of the House, were selected by
    1. Direct elections
    2. The president
    3. State legislatures
    4. Primary runoffs
    5. Regional coalitions
40. The Framers sought to prevent legislative tyranny by
    1. Requiring Congress to defer to the other branches of government
    2. Giving the executive the right to appoint both legislators and Supreme Court justices
    3. Severly limiting the powers of Congress
    4. Dividing power among the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary
    5. Calling for the direct election of the Senate
41. Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution confers on Congress all of the following powers except
    1. The power to veto bills
    2. The power to collect taxes
    3. The power to declare war
    4. The power to establish courts
    5. The power to regulate commerce
42. For a filibuster to be practicable, it must be supported by
    1. A single senator
    2. A number of senators smaller than a majority
    3. A majority of senators
    4. All senators
    5. All senators and the vice-president
43. In terms of its percentage of women and nonwhite members since 1950, the Senate, compared with the House, has
    1. Been slower to change
    2. Changed at about the same rate as the House
    3. Been faster to change
    4. Fewer women and nonwhites in powerful positions
    5. Not changed at all
44. A marginal district is one in which
    1. Voters frequently change party affiliation
    2. The constituency is made up of largely minority groups
    3. Voters are not clear as to which candidate is the incumbent
    4. Gerrymandering has produced a loose affiliation of interest groups
    5. The winner in an election gets less than 55 percent of the vote
45. One of the fears expressed by the Founders about aspects of the Presidency was the fear of a president’s
    1. Claiming certain inherent powers by virtue of his position
    2. Using the militia to overpower state governments
    3. Using his position to shape public opinion
    4. Powers to appoint select Supreme Court justices without congressional approval
    5. Powers to pardon
46. Alexander Hamilton stood at the Constitutional Convention and gave a five hour speech calling for
    1. A plural executive
    2. An elected president
    3. An official declaration that George Washington would be the first president
    4. His own appointment as Chief Executive
    5. An elective monarchy
47. The Framers solved the problem of how to elect the president by
    1. Forming a quasi-parliamentary system of government
    2. Providing for constitutional amendments
    3. Forming the House Election Committee
    4. Creating the Committee on Detail
    5. Creating the Electoral College
48. Regarding terms of office, the pattern among most early presidents was to
    1. Serve one term and then leave office
    2. Serve two terms and then leave office
    3. Be defeated in seeking a second term of office
    4. Serve three or more terms of office
    5. Leave office after being elected to a third term
49. Presidents have been limited to two terms by the
    1. 14th Amendment
    2. 16th Amendment
    3. 19th Amendment
    4. 21st Amendment
    5. 22nd Amendment
50. Personality plays a more important role in explaining the presidency than it does in explaining Congress because a president is
    1. More likely to rely on hands-on politics and persuasiveness to enact policy
    2. Less constrained by the rules and roles that operate within government
    3. More likely to be judged by his character in addition to his accomplishments
    4. Relatively immune from public opinion and polls
    5. Less constrained by the judiciary or current notions of constitutional principles
51. President need to rely on their powers of persuasion because of their
    1. Limited staffs and sketchy constitutional powers
    2. Opponents within the pary
    3. Lack of ensured legislative majorities
    4. Sketchy constitutional powers and lack of ensured legislative majorities
    5. Limited staffs
52. Restrictions on the powers of federal administrators tended to be set aside during times of
    1. Economic emergency
    2. War
    3. Prosperity
    4. National expansion
    5. Social stability
53. Most employees of the federal government are:
    1. On federal contracts
    2. Federal civil servants
    3. Postal workers
    4. Uniformed military
    5. In lower level managerial positions
54. The broad factors that best explain the behavior of bureaucratic officials include all of the following except
    1. How they are recruited
    2. Their personal attributes
    3. The influence of outside forces on them
    4. Their party preferences
    5. How they are rewarded
55. Periods of partisan realignment often have the effect on the courts of
    1. Expanding them
    2. Contracting them
    3. Energizing them
    4. Intimidating them
    5. Diluting them
56. One effective tool that Congress has at its disposal for controlling the federal courts is the power to
    1. Impeach judges who back policies opposed by Congress
    2. Overturn Supreme Court rulings with which it disagrees
    3. Withdraw jurisdiction from the courts
    4. Strip federal courts of their enforcement authority
57. Justices who believe the Supreme Court should change the direction of legislative policy are advocating
    1. Social Darwinism
    2. Natural law
    3. Strict constructionism
    4. Judicial restraint
    5. Judicial activism
58. Brown v. Board of Education is an example of a
    1. Taxpayer suit
    2. Class-action suit
    3. Section 1983 suit
    4. Reapportionment suit
    5. Client participatory suit

#### END OF SECTION I

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**SECTION II**

**Time – 100 minutes**

Directions: You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. In your response, use substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the question is numbered below.

1. Presidential approval ratings fluctuate over the course of each presidential administration

a. Identify two factors that decrease presidential approval ratings, and explain why each factor has that effect.

b. Identify two factors that increase presidential approval ratings, and explain why each factor has that effect.

2. The Supreme Court is commonly thought to be "above politics." However, one can argue that the appointment of Supreme Court justices is political.

a. Identify three characteristics of Supreme Court nominees and discuss how each characteristic has been politically relevant during the appointment process.

b. Identify two methods that have been used by interest groups to influence the appointment process. Explain how each of these methods has been used to influence that process.

3. The framers of the United States Constitution created a legislative system that is bicameral. However, it is not just bicameral; the framers also established two houses of distinctly different character and authority.

a. Discuss two reasons why the framers created a bicameral legislature.

b. Identify one power unique to the House of Representatives and explain why the framers gave the House that power.

c. Identify one power unique to the Senate and explain why the framers gave the Senate that power.

4. Congressional reapportionment and redistricting are conducted every ten years. When redistricting is conducted, politicians often engage in gerrymandering.

a. Define congressional reapportionment and explain one reason why it is important to states.

b. Define congressional redistricting.

c. Explain two goals of politicians when they gerrymander during redistricting.

d. Describe two limits that the United States Supreme Court has placed on congressional redistricting.

**END OF EXAMINATION**